

June 28, 2013 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Kingston 2025 Seeks Input from Community Organizations**

**Kingston, NY** – On July 15, 2013, at 6 PM, the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee will host a public meeting at Kingston City Hall, 420 Broadway, in the Common Council Chambers for purposes of obtaining additional public input from various organizations.

Kingston 2025 is a major initiative to update the comprehensive plan and the city zoning ordinance. These documents will provide a framework for future land use and development within the City of Kingston. While the City has performed many planning-related studies, until now, a true Citywide planning effort has not been undertaken since 1961.

The Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee (CPSC) is seeking input and opinions on where our City should be in 2025 and beyond. Building upon previous planning studies already performed, the Comprehensive Plan will establish clear policies for housing; reinvestment in existing neighborhoods; attracting new business investment; improving quality of life for residents and other stakeholders; measures to promote existing businesses, among a few.

In an effort to engage the public, the CPSC invites interested area and community organizations with ideas for Kingston's future to present their constructive thoughts and goals to the Committee for purposes of planning Kingston's future. Interested groups and agencies will be required to focus their presentations on their suggestions and concerns related to land use issues in the City of Kingston.

Ald. At Large James Noble, who serves as Chairman, says: "The CPSC recognizes the importance of obtaining input from the community. In the process of preparing the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Updates, we have strived to optimize and promote public participation. Having been contacted by various groups, the Committee made the decision to host a special public session which would afford an opportunity to submit suggestions and exchange ideas to be considered as components of the final products. I am encouraged that the interest of several groups to meet indicates that the community is solidly behind this effort. All are welcome to attend and listen to the groups presenting."

Mayor Shayne Gallo also notes, "I commend Chairman Noble, our Planning Staff, our consultants, Shuster-Turner, and the CPSC on efforts put forth to date. Our City must embrace the future and updating our Comprehensive Plan is vital to our sustainability as a vibrant community. The CPSC has identified that one component of the Plan will be a more detailed focus study area encompassing the Midtown. This dovetails into another initiative that my office has been working on, "BEAT" which addresses initiatives specifically within the midtown

area, of <u>B</u>usiness, <u>E</u>ntertainment, <u>A</u>rts and <u>T</u>echnology. I look forward to working with the CPSC to advance the entire Plan"

Groups interested in presenting to the CPSC on July 15, 2013, must contact the City of Kingston Planning Office at 845-334-3955 or email scahill@kingston-ny.gov. (Please put CPSC Presentation in the subject line.) Please provide your group's name and contact information, along with a one page summary outlining the topics you wish to discuss in your presentation. PowerPoint setup will be made available but is not required for presentations and your needs should be submitted. Please limit your presentation to 15 minutes to ensure that all parties are able to present and will be afforded equal time to do so. If you cannot attend, written statements will also be accepted and considered as part of the record.

Please visit www.kingston-ny.gov and click on the Kingston 2025 icon for project information along with other materials.

For more information please contact: Suzanne Cahill, Planning Director

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